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REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this Patent Application, particularly in view of the above Amendment and the following remarks. This Amendment accepts the allowable subject matter identified in the Office Action, thereby making this a responsive Amendment that should be entered after final.

No additional fee is required for this Amendment as the number of independent claims is not more than three, and the total number of claims is not more than originally filed.

Request for Telephone Interview

Applicants kindly request the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (847) 490-1400 if any further change is needed.

Amendment to the Claims

Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of Claim 12, including limitations of intervening claims. Claim 23, also indicated as allowable, has been amended into independent form, including limitations of intervening claims. Dependent claims have been amended to change claim dependencies in view of amended independent Claim 1, and to further clarify claim

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limitations. Claim 26 has been written into dependent form, depending from allowed Claim 27. No new matter has been added to the claims by this Amendment.

Drawings

The drawings included in WO 2005/101393 are the drawings submitted with the Patent Application, and were published by the USPTO in the published Patent Application. For the Examiner's convenience replacement drawings are provided.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

The rejection of Claims 1-4, 17, 19, 20, 22, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimada, JP 08046381, in view of Chang, U.S. Patent No. 7,028,389, is respectfully traversed. Amended Claim 1 includes subject matter found to be allowable and Claim 26 now depends from Claim 27, thereby rendering this rejection moot.

The rejection of Claims 5-9, 11, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimada in view of Chang, and further in view of Dessert,

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U.S. Patent 3,398,249, is respectfully traversed. These dependent claims depend from allowed Claim 27, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for his efforts in determining that Claim 27 is allowed and that Claims 12-16, 23, 24 and 25 contain allowable subject matter over the prior art of record. Claim 1 has been amended to include limitations of Claim 12 and the intervening claims. Claim 23 has been amended into independent form, including limitations of the intervening claims. All other claims depend from amended Claim 1 or allowed Claim 27. All claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Applicants intend to be fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action. If the Examiner detects any issue which the Examiner believes Applicants have not addressed or resolved in this response, the undersigned attorney again requests a telephone interview with the Examiner.

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Applicants sincerely believe that this Patent Application is now in condition for allowance and, thus, respectfully request early allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Swanson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark D. Swanson

Registration No. 48,498

Pauley Petersen & Erickson
2800 West Higgins Road
Suite 365
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169
(847) 490-1400
FAX (847) 490-1403